

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

October 2011 – Week 4

Air Date: October 23 – October 29 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: FAILED MISSION

OCTOBER 1693 AND IT'S *MISSION FAILED* IN SPANISH TEXAS.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

OCTOBER 25, 1693. EAST TEXAS ALONG SAN PEDRO CREEK. BUILT THREE YEARS AGO AFTER FRENCH EXPLORER LA SALLE ARRIVED TO CLAIM TEXAS, THE SAN FRANCISCO DE LAS TEJAS MISSION WAS MEANT AS A MESSAGE THAT SPAIN RULES HERE.

BUT UNDER FATHER DAMIEN MASSANET, THE REMOTE MISSION HAS STRUGGLED TO EARN SUPPORT OF THE LOCAL TEJAS INDIAN TRIBE. THIS WINTER, WHEN SPANISH SUPPLIES FELL SHORT, INDIANS REVOLTED.

TODAY, AFTER PACKING UP THE VESTMENTS AND BURYING THE CHURCH BELL, MASSANET AND HIS FELLOW PRIESTS SET FIRE TO THE MISSION AND HEAD FOR CIVILIZATION.

THE MISSION FAILED, BUT THE SPANISH WOULD CONTINUE TO RULE TEXAS FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY.

THE SAN FRANCISCO MISSION WENT UP IN FLAMES 318 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

Robert S. Weddle, "SAN FRANCISCO DE LOS TEJAS MISSION," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/uqs15>), accessed September 14, 2011. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Donald E. Chipman, "MASSANET, DAMIAN," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fma71>), accessed September 14, 2011. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

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